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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

**sSB 1127**

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING CONTRIBUTIONS BY STATE CONTRACTORS TO TOWN COMMITTEES.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill lifts the ban on contributions by individuals who are state contractors or prospective state contractors and their principals, spouses, and dependent children to town committees in the municipality where they reside. It instead authorizes them to contribute up to the same amount that the law authorizes other individuals to contribute to town committees—currently, \$1,000. By law, campaign finance contributions are subject to reporting requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2014

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Contributions to Candidate, Political, and State Central Committees***

Existing law prohibits state contractors or prospective state contractors and their principals, spouses, and dependent children from contributing to (1) exploratory or candidate committees for statewide or legislative candidates, (2) political committees authorized to make contributions to or spend on behalf of candidates for statewide or legislative office, or (3) state central committees. It also prohibits them from soliciting contributions from their employees, a subcontractor, or a subcontractor's principals on behalf of the recipients listed above. The bans are branch-specific. (For example, a contractor that does business with only the executive branch may contribute to legislative candidates.) However, prequalified contractors may not contribute to any candidates for state or legislative office.

#### ***Related Bills***

SB 5, favorably reported by the Government Administration and Elections Committee, increases certain individual contribution limits.

SB 1120 (File 495) increases the limit on contributions by individuals to state central committees.

HB 6632 (File 472) increases the limit on contributions by individuals to town committees.

### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 1 (04/05/2013)